People have been attracted to midcoast Maine for generations. They are drawn by its beauty and abundant natural resources.

Some come to visit; others to stay. They are artists and accountants, doctors and deck-hands, fishermen and farmers.

While midcoast Maine has maintained its beauty and natural resources over centuries of settlement, it is not immune from development and environmental pressures. Like other ecologically valuable regions, midcoast Maine needs good stewards - people who will take good care of it and inspire others to do the same.



The Mid-Coast Stewards is a project of the Maine Coastal Program / State Planning Office Midcoast Stewards c/o Maine Coastal Progr 38 State House Station Augusta MF 04333-003

Midcoast Stewards



... fostering ongoing
stewardship of Maine's
coastal resources

Program Goals ...

- To provide area residents with information concerning the cultural and natural resources of midcoast Maine.
- To provide participants the opportunity to access information that will facilitate individual actions to protect and conserve their coastal environment.
- To give residents a voice in the decision making that shapes the future of their coastal communities.
- To create a network of educated and committed volunteers working together to conserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of midcoast

Maine.

Key Topics ...

The Midcoast Stewards course covers many different topics focusing on the cultural and natural history of the region. Some topics include:

- island ecology
- geological history
- maritime history
- watersheds
- water quality monitoring
- marine mammals
- bird conservation
- salmon restoration
- rocky intertidal ecosystems
- sustainable fisheries management
- history of aquaculture
- estuaries
- panel discussion addressing economics, development and land conservation
- vernal pools
- marine debris
- stewardship
- interpretive skills
- lobsters and ground fish

Education ...

The Midcoast Stewards program begins with a 64 hour course which meets twice a week for four weeks. Each day covers topics of natural or cultural interest presented by leading authorities from within Maine communities. Presentations vary from classroom discussions to field tours and projects.

..and Stewardship

Upon conclusion of the course, participants commit 30 hours of volunteer service to the protection of midcoast Maine's natural and cultural resources. Past Stewards have helped create organizations such as the Damariscotta River Association. Others have helped in planning for their communities. Stewards can and do develop their own service projects or volunteer with existing programs.

Apply...

FMI or to request an application (can also be downloaded at web site):

Maine Coastal Program 38 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0038

ph: 207-287-1486 / email: lorraine.lessard@maine.gov

web site: www.maine.gov/spo/mcp